



ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Us 4

Structure of the Organization 5

Projects 11

Key Achievements of the Year16

Support of Ukrainian Physicians19

GMKA in the Media 20

Partners..... 22

Contact Information 24

Annual Report for the year 2023 of the non-profit organization "Global Medical Knowledge Alliance Ukraine," registered in Ukraine (EDRPOU code: 44815419), and the non-profit organization "Global Medical Knowledge Alliance Inc.," registered in the United States of America (EIN: 82-2136747).

ABOUT US

The Global Medical Knowledge Alliance (GMKA) is a non-profit organization recognized under the 501(c)(3) category, with a focused mission on enhancing oncology and surgical care both in Ukraine and internationally. Established in 2017 by the Drs. Serguei and Nelya Melnitchouk, board-certified surgeons affiliated with Harvard Medical School, GMKA rapidly expanded its scope in 2022 in response to the escalating needs stemming from the war in Ukraine. With official representations in the USA and Ukraine, our organization is a testament to global collaboration, comprising medical experts from the USA, Ukraine, Italy, Poland, and other European Union countries.

GMKA is committed to providing physicians and patients, particularly in Ukraine, with open access to peer-reviewed, evidence-based educational resources. Our goal is to significantly enhance the quality of care and healthcare outcomes, especially in the challenging context of ongoing conflict. Since its inception, GMKA has broadened its initiatives to include medical relief support, the delivery of medical supplies, and the execution of educational and humanitarian projects within the medical field.

We developed a state-of-the-art online platform that offers physicians and patients access to reliable, credible medical information. This platform focuses on trauma care standards and educational materials on cancer care, ensuring the sustenance of quality medical care during these tumultuous times and beyond.

Our dynamic team at GMKA is engaged in a broad spectrum of initiatives. These range from creating an innovative online platform facilitating remote consultations for healthcare professionals in Ukraine and worldwide to implementing quality improvement programs aimed at boosting healthcare and patient outcomes.

The backbone of our organization is our team of physicians, encompassing a wide array of specialties. They are:

- Internationally recognized experts in their fields;
- Committed to improving the quality of healthcare services;
- Actively involved in both clinical practice and research endeavors.

Content creation at GMKA is entrusted to leading experts and opinion leaders working in premier medical centers across the USA and Europe. Ensuring the highest quality standards, our articles undergo a rigorous peer-review process conducted by specialized editors and are translated by professional medical translators. Proudly, the GMKA team boasts:

- Over a decade of experience;
- More than 300 published articles;
- Collaboration with over 300 authors.

At GMKA, we are driven by a profound commitment to medical excellence and the unwavering determination to impact healthcare worldwide significantly, especially in times of need.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION

ПРАВЛІННЯ, ГМКА:



SERGUEI MELNITCHOUK

MD, MPH, FACS – Founder/Chairman of the Board

Cardiac surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital specializing in minimally invasive mitral valve surgery. He is also an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Director of the Valve Pathology Program at Massachusetts General Hospital.



NELYA MELNITCHOUK

MD, MSc, FACS – Founder/CEO

A Board Certified practicing surgeon specializing in colorectal surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute (Boston, USA). She is also an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, heading the Colorectal Surgery Fellowship and the Program in Peritoneal Surface Malignancy at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute.



JENNIFER DAVIDS

MD, Board Member

Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Boston Medical Center (USA), where she also serves as the Division Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery. She is a board-certified colorectal surgeon and a national leader in the field.



IVANKA KOVALYSHYN

MD, Board Member

Board-certified practicing dermatologist and dermatopathologist. She graduated from Queens College (City University of New York) and obtained her medical degree from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her dermatology residency and dermatopathology fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic (Ohio, USA).



MIHIR NAIK

MD, Board Member

Board-certified radiation oncologist who practices at Cleveland Clinic Florida (Florida, USA). He graduated from medical school at Midwestern University – Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed his internship at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn (Illinois, USA), and continued his residency training in radiation oncology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland (Ohio, USA).

ADVISORY BOARD:



**MIRUNA P.
BURK**

Managing Director,
Accenture.



**ANDRIY
BEZNOSENKO,
MD**

Head of the
Thoracoabdominal
Surgery Research
Department,
National Cancer
Institute (Kyiv,
Ukraine).



**OLEKSANDR
LINCHEVSKYY,
MD**

Military Surgeon,
Former Deputy
Minister of Health,
Ukraine (2016–2019),
Chief Medical
Officer of the
“Dobrobut” clinic.



**JULIE GRALOW,
MD**

Chief Medical Officer
and Executive Vice
President of the
American Society of
Clinical Oncology
(ASCO).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GMKA UKRAINE:



**SERGUEI
MELNITCHOUK,
MD, MPH, FACS**

Cardiac Surgeon at
Massachusetts General
Hospital, Assistant
Professor of Surgery at
Harvard Medical School.



**NELYA
MELNITCHOUK,
MD, MSC, FACS**

Surgeon at Brigham and
Women's Hospital and
Dana Farber Cancer
Institute (DFCI) in Boston,
USA, Assistant Professor
of Surgery at Harvard
Medical School.



**SOLOMIIA SEMENIV,
MD**

Surgeon at the University
Hospital in Krakow
(Poland), researcher and
lecturer at Jagiellonian
University.



**GALYNA SHABAT,
MD**

Surgeon in Italy,
Assistant Professor at the
Department of Surgery of
Ivano-Frankivsk National
Medical University
in 2012–2014.



OLEH VDOVYAK

Communication and
Digital Marketing Expert,
Advisor to the Minister of
Health of Ukraine
(2016–2017).

EDITORS

Faina Nakhlis, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston, USA) – Breast Cancer

George Molina, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston, USA) – HPB Malignancy

Emily Keung, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas (Houston, USA) – Sarcoma

Elizabeth Lilley, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas (Houston, USA) – Palliative Care

Elie Rassy, MD, Gustave Roussy (France) – Cancer of Unknown Primary

Jennifer Davids, MD, University of Massachusetts Medical Center (USA) – Colorectal Cancer

Ivanka Kovalyshyn, DO (Miami, USA) – Cutaneous Malignancies

Rossanna Pezo, MD, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (Toronto, Canada) – Cutaneous Malignancies

Darya Kizub, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas (Houston, USA) – Breast Cancer

Elise Nassif, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas (Houston, USA) – Sarcoma

Yevgeniy Semenov, MD, Harvard Medical School – Cutaneous Malignancies

Kristin Sonderman, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston, USA) – Trauma Surgery

Pamela Lu, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas (Houston, USA) – HPB Malignancy

Michael Worley, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston, USA) – Gynecologic Oncology

Simon Talbot, MD, Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston, USA) – Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

TEAM:



**NELYA MELNITCHOUK,
MD, MSC, FACS**
Founder/CEO



GALYNA SHABAT, MD
Director of Patient
Education



INESA HUIVANIUK, MD
Executive Director of the
GMKA Ukraine



**ILONA
SVIEZHENTSEVA, PHD**
Chief Editor of Patient
Education



**KATERYNA
POTAPOVA, MD, MPH**
Director of Strategic
Development



OLEH VDOVYAK
Communications
Director



**ANASTASIIA PRYSTAIA,
MD**
Director of Partnerships
and Public Relations



ANDRII LUZAN
Communications
Manager



**NATALIIA SERBYN,
PHD**
Director of Supplies and
Logistics



**SVITLANA STASHKIV,
MD**
Communications
Manager



DARYA KIZUB, MD
Director of Medical
Oncology



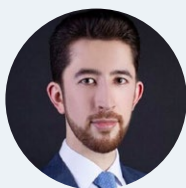
ARTEM YEVTUSHENKO
SEO Specialist



**SOLOMIIA SEMENIV,
MD**
Director of Surgical
Education



**STEPHANIE COHEN,
MD**
Director of Visual
Communications.



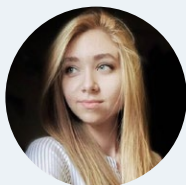
ALI DZEMILIEV, MD

Director of the HealUA Platform



OLEKSANDR STRELKO

Medical Translator



SVITLANA BIELICHENKO, MD

Moderator of the HealUA Platform



ASTRA MELIKSETIAN, MD

Medical Editor and Translator



OLENA TYTARENKO

Communications Manager of the HealUA



IVAN HORNIK, MD

Head of the Endoscopy Data Analytics



VIACHESLAV KOPETSKYI, MD

Director of Research and Data Analytics



MARIANA KURYK

Events Manager for Physicians



SVITLANA MESHKO, MD

Editor of Quality Improvement



MARTA ANTONIV, MD

Research Fellow



SERHII FROLOV, MD

Director of Medical Translation



TARAS IVANYKOVYCH

Project Manager



TETYANA PAVLISHEVSKA, MD

Medical Translator

GEOGRAPHY OF ACTIVITY

Ukraine, USA, Italy, Poland, France, Canada



300+

authors and editors

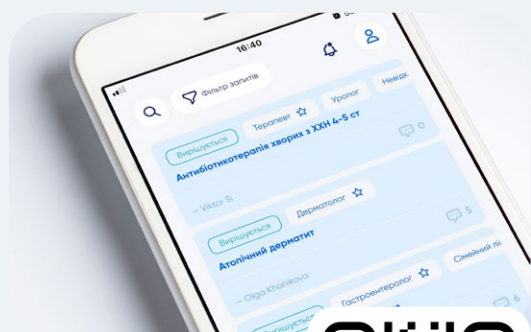
PROJECTS

Creation of the HealUA Mobile Application

HealUA is the first mobile application that brings together physicians for remote peer-to-peer consultations in Ukraine. Ukrainian doctors and their colleagues from overseas can exchange experience regarding patient diagnosis and treatment.

Over 3200 doctors from 30 countries, including Ukraine and the USA, have joined HealUA, and are engaging in daily discussions about medical cases of various complexity. Since the development of the application began in May 2022, 310 requests have been submitted, with 97% receiving remote consultations. HealUA operates in both Ukrainian and English, and the application's communication can occur through chat or video calls.

The application can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and Google Play Market through the following link: onelink.to/healua



Information Platform on Oncology

GMKA systematically works to support oncologists and patients with cancer in Ukraine by providing access to expert evidence-based materials on the prevention, diagnostics, and treatment of various types of cancer.



Cancer Capacity Mapping

The GMKA Team conducted a scientific study involving the assessment of cancer diagnostic and treatment capabilities in Ukraine through surveys of patients and oncologists. The research aimed to evaluate opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of medical care in oncology centers in Ukraine. Additionally, within the project, factors influencing the waiting time for patients in oncology centers and the diagnosis and treatment of cancer were identified and assessed.

In addition, GMKA, in collaboration with "Accenture" and "Palantir," is developing advanced digital

solutions to enhance the quality of cancer treatment. The outcome of this collaborative effort will be a data analytics platform designed to analyse data from the eHealth electronic system and, consequently, create user-friendly dashboards for comparing the numbers and movements of patients, waiting times at different stages of treatment for various types of cancer, survival rates, and compliance with NCCN requirements.



"Aid for Ukraine" – assistance to Ukrainian medics during the war

The organization provides charitable assistance to medics, evacuation teams, frontline hospitals, and hospitals that ensure stabilization and treatment of injured civilians and Ukrainian military personnel. Thanks to the support of two volunteer organizations in the USA – Heal Ukraine Group and Lake Country Medical Aid for Ukraine – GMKA searches for high-quality medical equipment, instruments, consumables, and medications. Subsequently, GMKA ensures fast and reliable delivery of the necessary items to all regions of Ukraine.



Training for Ukrainian Physicians in the USA

The Russian military aggression against Ukraine has significantly complicated the training of the new generation of Ukrainian professionals, especially in the field of healthcare. Through the partnership of GMKA, Heal Ukraine Group, Help Ukraine Group, and the Harvard Scholars at Risk (SAR) program at Harvard University, the organization has developed a short-term observership program for Ukrainian physicians and nurses.

By providing Ukrainian medical professionals with access to new knowledge and skills, GMKA contributes to the recovery of Ukraine's healthcare sector and creates new opportunities for the medical community. In 2023, the organization secured observership opportunities for 31 Ukrainian doctors.

Our observers:



Vadym Vus, MD
Family Medicine:

The acquired experience is already changing Ukrainian medicine. During the training, I learned point-of-care ultrasound, and I had the opportunity to participate in seminars, take shifts with the aviation rescue team, and get answers to my questions about managing patients with chronic wounds in the world's best wound clinic.



Olha Kostenchak-Svystak, MD
Hematology:

My motivation is to learn from the best specialists to develop Ukrainian medicine. I expected to gain new knowledge in developing the bone marrow transplantation program and patient management. Still, I got even more – I met wonderful people, doctors with whom we continue to maintain contact and who share their knowledge of bone marrow transplantation. These are people who sincerely want to help Ukrainian patients.



Lesia Mytsak, MD
Radiation Oncology:

Patient management, coordinated teamwork, well-established protocols – these are the first moments that really impressed me. I really want to ignite a passion for modern radiotherapy among the physicians in my home hospital and physicians from other hospitals in Ukraine, just as it happened to me.



Sofiya Hrechukh, MD
Psychiatry:

From the educational process, first of all, I wanted to gain new clinical experience, as well as skills in the effective organization of psychiatric care and the psychiatric department of a multidisciplinary hospital. After several months in an American hospital, I can confidently say that my expectations were fully justified.



Yevhen Prystaia, MD
Cardiovascular Surgery:

To build quality healthcare, importing Western medical technologies and educational systems is necessary. The most important thing I gained during the observership ship was understanding how the training should be conducted. It was an exciting journey into the "new world" of cardiovascular surgery.

Online Course "Principles of Surgery"

The course is designed for young surgeons in Ukraine seeking additional learning and professional development opportunities. It is based on the curriculum of Harvard Medical School surgical residency training program and covers essential surgical topics. Course lecturers include surgeons from Brigham and Women's Hospital (USA), Massachusetts General Hospital (USA), Italy, Poland, and other European Union countries.



Online Course "Patient Communication"

Guided by the best practices in the U.S. and Europe, the GMKA Team has developed an interactive online course for physicians. Experienced lecturers teach principles of effective communication with patients, modern approaches to delivering medical news, and the fundamentals of medical ethics. Lecturers included physicians from Harvard Medical School and Mayo Clinic.



Research and Data Analytics Activities:

The GMKA Research Team connects scientists, physicians, interns, and students working in the USA, Ukraine, and Europe under the guidance of senior medical researchers from leading institutions. The goal is to conduct scientific research and data analytics to improve healthcare for Ukrainian patients. Key research topics include:

1. Investigating factors promoting colorectal, breast, and cervical cancer screening in the practice of primary care physicians in Ukraine.
2. Studying factors promoting screening colonoscopy in Ukraine.
3. Evaluating surgical education in Ukraine.
4. Evaluation of Reconstructive Surgery in Ukraine During Wartime.
5. Evaluation of Cancer Treatment Capability in Ukraine.
6. Implementation of HealUA Mobile Application in Ukrainian Physicians' Practice.
7. Evaluation of Medical Evacuation of Oncology Patients During Wartime.

8. Assessment of the Implementation of ATLS Courses in Ukraine.

Throughout the year, the team presented its research findings at prestigious conferences in the USA and Europe, including the American Society for Clinical Oncology, American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, New England Surgical Society, Harvard Surgery Research Day, Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, European Society for Medical Oncology, European Cancer Summit, Oncohub, and London Cancer Week.

Scientific articles from the team have been published in reputable medical journals such as *Annals of Surgery*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *The Cancer Letter*. The team received the "John Welch Award" for its research on implementing the HealUA application in Ukraine at the New England Surgical Society Annual Meeting 2023 in Newport, USA. Additionally, the GMKA Team was honored with the "Resident Research Award: Clinical Presentation" for their research on implementing ATLS courses in Ukraine during wartime at the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons 2023 conference in Boston, USA.



Quality Improvement Program:

In 2023, the GMKA Team initiated a collaboration with the Mykolaiv Oncology Center, piloting Quality Improvement Program and evaluating preliminary results. QI work consists of prospective data collection, standardizing perioperative management in colorectal surgery, conducting regular clinical reviews of complications and mortality, and preparing educational materials for patients.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR:



1 Collaborated with the International Medical Corps and Harvard Humanitarian Initiative to create a comprehensive educational program, "Save Lives," focusing on urgent and trauma care. The initiative aims to enhance practical skills for Ukrainian healthcare professionals and individuals without medical training, such as firefighters and law enforcement officers, who may be involved in rescue operations.



3 Founder of GMKA, Dr. Nelya Melnitchouk, has been included in the STATUS List 2023 – a roster of distinguished scientists and healthcare professionals compiled annually by the American publication STAT News.



2 Facilitated 31 Medical observerships at hospitals in the U.S. for Ukrainian clinicians.



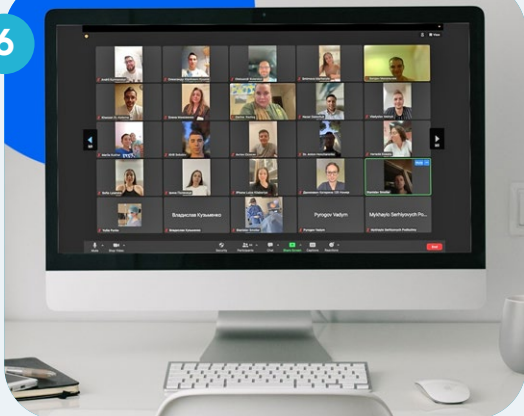
4 GMKA researched the effects of the full-scale war in Ukraine on the treatment of oncological diseases. The study involved 840 patients from all regions of Ukraine.

5



The GMKA Team commenced the Quality Improvement Program in collaboration with the Mykolaiv Regional Cancer Center.

6



GMKA introduced an online course covering the fundamental principles of surgery, with the participation of 40 Ukrainian surgeons.

7

PATIENT COMMUNICATION COURSE



Launched the "Patient Communication Course" – an online program focused on communication between healthcare providers and patients, as well as medical ethics.

8



In partnership with American College of Surgeons and publishing house "Nash Format", we published and distributed 3,000 manuals "ATLS. Advanced Trauma Life Support".

9



Launched a large-scale project, "GMKA Ambassadors," to create a community of medical experts to popularise evidence based medicine in Ukraine.

10
















Translated the Deployed Medicine guidelines into Ukrainian, which are among the best educational materials that contain clinical recommendations for providing surgical assistance and operative treatment of injuries sustained in combat for military surgeons.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN PHYSICIANS DURING WARTIME







THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE ORGANISATION PROVIDED ASSISTANCE AMOUNTING TO \$58,362.43 USD.

IN 2023, THESE RESOURCES WERE ALLOCATED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF DOCTORS IN UKRAINE.

COMBAT MEDICS AND MOBILE SURGICAL HOSPITALS:

-  Occlusive dressings: **500**
-  Tourniquets: **305**
-  Hemostatic bandages: **265**
-  Chest Decompression Needles: **50**
-  Splints: **50**
-  Nasopharyngeal Airway sets: **20**
-  iTClamp (device for stopping bleeding): **15**
-  Emergency cricothyrotomy kit: **10**
-  Needle decompression kits: **5**
-  Pulse oximeters: **4**
-  Aneroid sphygmomanometer: **4**
-  Glucometer: **1**
-  Capnograph: **1 + 10 adapters**

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:

-  Cardiac Monitor: **4**
-  Generator: **1**
-  Otoscope: **1**
-  Patient warming system: **1**
-  Electrocardiograph: **1**
-  Coagulation Diathermy Machine: **1**

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS:

-  Staplers and clips: **225**
-  Cardiovascular surgical instruments: **19**
-  Bronchoscope: **1**



GMKA IN THE MEDIA



eCancer

<https://ecancer.org/en/video/11468-war-in-ukraine-the-global-medical-knowledge-alliance-s-response-to-improving-cancer-care>



The Cancer Letter

https://cancerletter.com/conversation-with-the-cancer-letter/20230224_1/



The Hill

<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/3872540-addressing-russian-crimes-against-humanity-in-ukraine-now-is-good-medicine/>



The Ukrainians

The Ukrainians

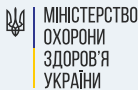
<https://nzt.theukrainians.org/vid-likarya-do-likarya-rozroblyly-bezkoshtovnyj-zastosunok-dlya-ukrayinskyh-medykiv.html>



УКРАЇНЬСЬКА ПРАВДА

Українська правда

<https://life.pravda.com.ua/society/2023/03/14/253321/>



МОЗ

<https://moz.gov.ua/article/news/odni-z-najkraschih-materialiv-dlja-vijskovih-hirurgiv---nastanovi-deployed-medicine---perekladajut-ukrainskoju-movoju>



Brigham and Women's Hospital

<https://www.brighamhealthonamission.org/2023/01/02/brigham-clinicians-are-teaching-ukrainians-how-to-stop-the-bleed/>



Армія Inform

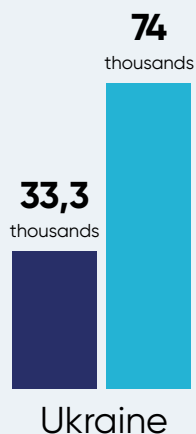
<https://armyinform.com.ua/2022/12/27/najnovishi-klinichni-rekomendacziyi-shhodo-nadannya-hirurgichnoyi-bojovoyi-dopomogy-vyklady-u-vilnyj-dostup/>



Harvard University

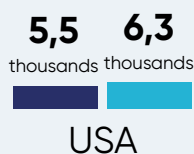
<https://huri.harvard.edu/event/healthcare-challenges-ukraine>





+120%

● **45 thousands** (2022) → ● **100 thousands** (2023)
unique website visitors
 (Twice as many as in 2022)



Published articles in 2023

FOR PHYSICIANS:

125

Oncology

77



42 in English / 35 in Ukrainian

Trauma and Emergency Medicine

48



11 in English / 37 in Ukrainian

FOR PATIENTS:

30

18



2 in English / 16 in Ukrainian

TOP-5 publications based on the number of views on the website:

- ★ Guideline for the Treatment of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury. **31 thousands**
- ★ ATLS **28,5 thousands**
- ★ Initial Assessment and Management of Trauma **13,5 thousands**
- ★ Guidelines for Military Surgeons - Deployed Medicine **8 thousands**
- ★ Aural Blast Injury/Acoustic Trauma and Hearing Loss **7,5 thousands**

Growth on social media:

- Facebook (www.facebook.com/gmka.org) **26 thousands**
- Instagram (www.instagram.com/gmka_org) **12 thousands**
- Telegram (www.t.me/gmka_org) **1,4 thousands subscribers**
- YouTube (www.youtube.com/@gmka_org) **1,4 thousands subscribers**
- Mailchimp **> 2,6 thousands**

PARTNERS



CONTACTS



www.gmka.org



facebook.com/gmka.org



instagram.com/gmka_org



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